



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

25 September 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: September 21, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Pinellas to Collier County. Patchy moderate impacts are expected for Pinellas, Manatee, and Lee Counties today, Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday afternoon; with patchy very low impacts expected Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, and Thursday. Patchy high impacts are expected for Sarasota and Charlotte County today, Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday afternoon; with patchy low impacts expected Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, and Thursday. Patchy low impacts are expected from northern to central Collier County today, Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday afternoon; with very low impacts expected Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, and Thursday.

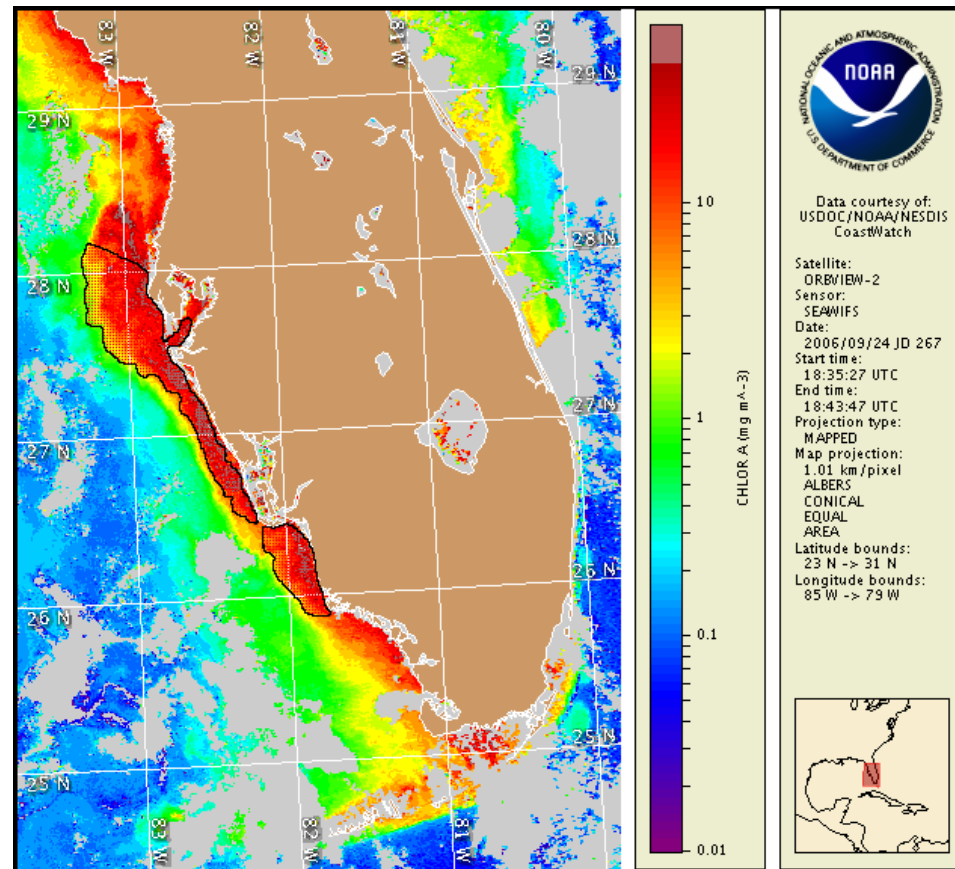
Analysis

The harmful algal bloom continues to persist off the coast of southwest Florida from Pinellas to central Collier County. Imagery from 9/24 indicates that chlorophyll concentrations remain high ($>20\text{g/L}$) along the coast through southern Collier County. Medium concentrations of *K.brevis* have been identified onshore from Clearwater to Fort Myers, with high concentrations at Lido Beach, Siesta Key in Sarasota County, and at Englewood Beach and Pine Island Sound in Charlotte County (FWRI; 9/18-20). Medium to high concentrations were identified offshore from 19 miles west of Anclote Key in Pinellas County, to 13 miles west of Wiggins Pass, in northern Collier County (FWRI; 9/21-22). Recent sampling results indicate that the bloom is not present offshore from southern Collier to Monroe County (FWRI; 9/20). High chlorophyll concentrations are likely due to non-harmful algae; however, continued sampling is recommended. Fish kills have been reported over the past few days throughout Sarasota and Pinellas County. With persistent northerly winds throughout the week, slight southerly transport is possible.

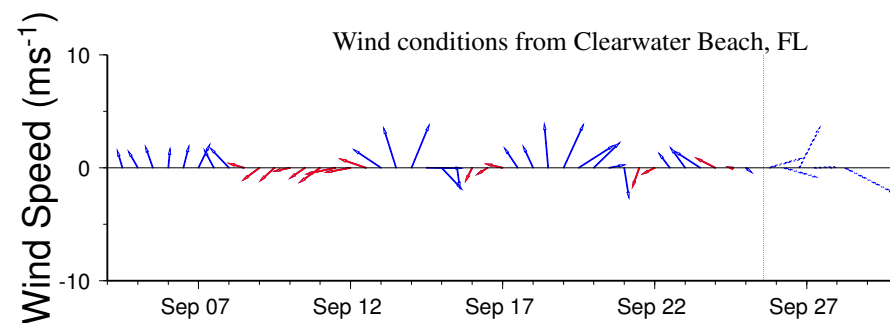
~Keller, Allen

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1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
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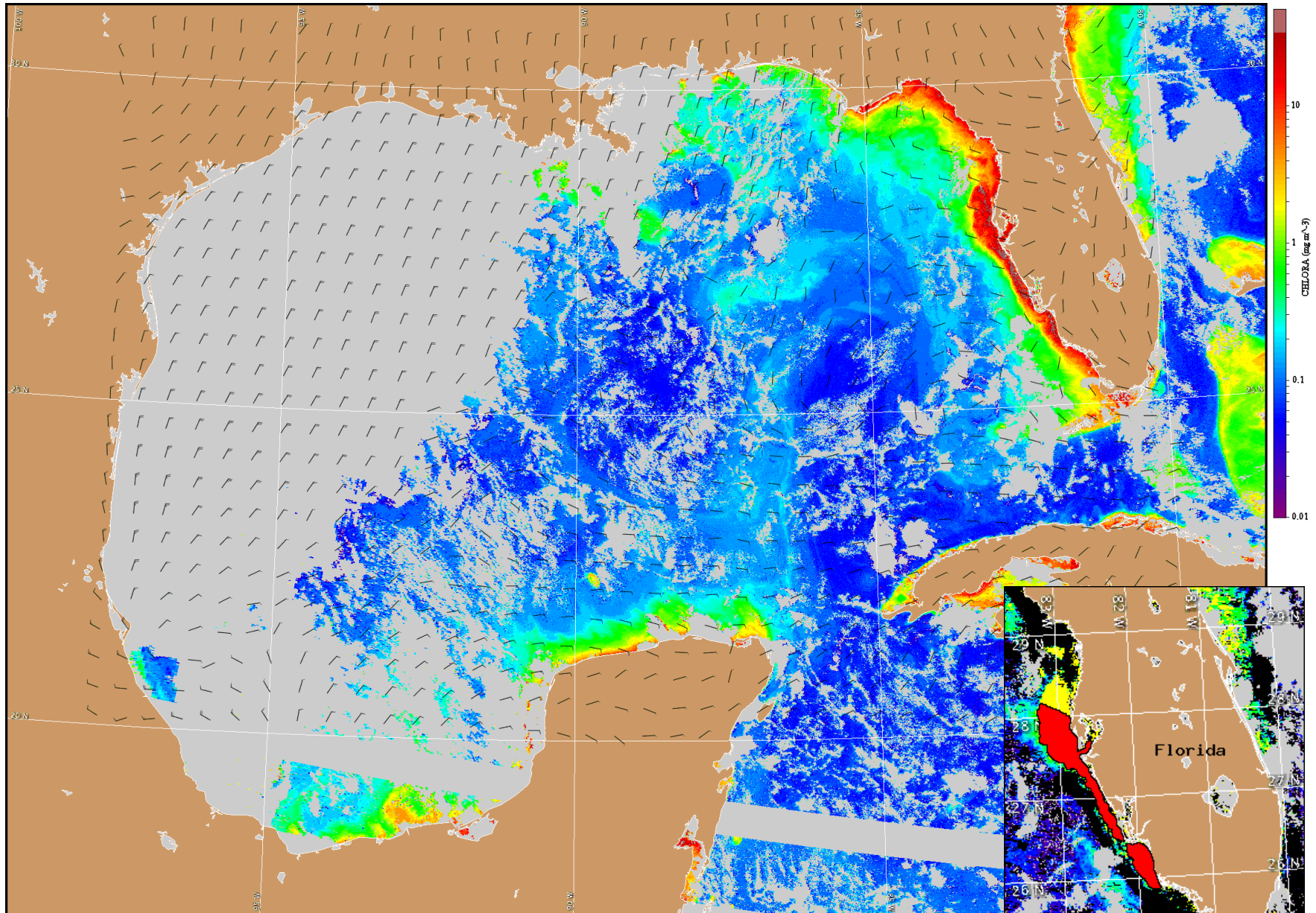


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Northwestern winds today (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Northerly winds on Tuesday and Wednesday, with northwesterly winds in the afternoon (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Northerly winds on Thursday (10 knots; 5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 26, 2006 06Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

